Need to protect domestic media

†1174. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Need to protect domestic media", which appeared in the Business Standard, dated the 3rd February, 2003;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that there is need to save domestic media of the country after globalisation; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The policy structures relating to broadcasting and print media are being revisited from time to time, keeping in view the need to maintain an environment conducive to a vibrant, diverse and healthy domestic media in the context of globalisation and the rapid economic and technological changes that are taking place.

Production centre of DD in Jalpaiguri

1175. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists a full-fledged production centre of Doordarshan in Jalpaiguri, West Bengal;

(b) if so, how many in-house productions have been made so far by the said centre; and;

(c) the proposals of Government to make best use of the centre to boost the upcoming and promising artists of North Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. Jalpaiguri is equipped only for limited production. It does not originate any telecast.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) DDK Jalpaiguri has produced the following number of Programmes.

Year	Programmes
2000	24
2001	44
2002	76

(c) DDK Jalpaiguri covers the districts of Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur and Malda for programme production. Programmes produced ensure participation of upcoming and promising artists. Programmes from remote tribal areas are also given emphasis.

Plight of newspapers industry

1176. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Newspaper Society has stated that newspapers industry is suffering due to policies of Government; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to correct the anamolies in the policies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have been receiving representations from the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) from time to time highlighting certain issues of concern to the newspapers industry and the demands raised by the INS have been examined in the Ministry on merit.

Advertisement revenue of DD

1177. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while the advertisement revenue of Doordarshan has gone down by 12 per cent, whereas private TV channels registered increase of 43 per cent during 2002;